(b) whether he has done Air India's valuation; and

(c) whether or not relationship between J. M. Morgan Stanley and the Tata Group would affect the valuation of Air India since the Tata Group are bidders for disinvestment of this national carrier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) As per information available, the Chairman of M/s J. M. Morgan Stanley Private Limited had been invited to join the Board of Directors of the Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL) as an independent Director in his personal capacity and not as a Tata Group appointee. He joined the Board of IHCL on the 29th March, 2001 and resigned therefrom on the 25th May 2001, without attending a Board meeting.

(b) The valuation by M/s J. M. Morgan Stanley has not been completed.

(c) No, Sir. However, the Government has decided to appoint two additional valuers.

Disinvestment of Fertilizers and Chemicals PSUs

2894. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the PSUs in the Ministry of Fertilizers and Chemicals identified for disinvestment;

(b) the norms for identifying such PSUs for disinvestment;

(c) whether any time schedule has been fixed for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, which have been identified for disinvestment by the Disinvestment Commission are:—

(i) Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL)
(ii) Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited (HOCL)
(iii) Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL)
(iv) National Fertilizers Limited (NFL)
(v) Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL)
(vi) Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL)

(vii) Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF)

(viii) Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT)

(b) Disinvestment is being considered and carried out in various PSUs in accordance with the declared policy of the Government. According to the policy, in generality of cases, Government will bring down its equity to 26% or below in all non-strategic PSUs. The strategic PSUs are those in the areas of arms and ammunitions; allied items of defence equipment, defence aircrafts and warships; atomic energy (except in the areas related to the generation of nuclear power and applications of radiation and radio isotopes to agriculture medicine and non-strategic industries) and railway transport. This policy covers all Central PSUs.

(c) and (d) Following the acceptance of the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission, the process of disinvestment in these PSUs except RCF and FACT has been taken up. It is not possible to indicate any time schedule for completion of the process.

Rejection of Sterlite Bid

2895. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sterlite has submitted a letter of Expression of Interest for bidding the stakes of Hindustan Zinc and Hindustan Copper;

(b) if so, whether this bid has been disqualified under the new guidelines evolved by the Cabinet Committee on Disinvestment;

(c) whether the reasons attributed for the rejection of the Sterlite bid is an earlier indiction by the market regulator SEBI; and

(d) if so, whether the new guidelines were in force when the Sterlite company clinched the BALCO deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a)Yes, Sir.

(b) In terms of the "Guidelines for qualification of Bidders seeking to acquire stakes in Public Sector Enterprises through the process of disinvestment" issued on 13-7-2001, show-cause notices have been served